

REMARKS

Claims 1-23, 25, 26 and 35 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein. Claims 24 and 34 are the independent claims. In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that claims 24, 28-34, 36-38 are pending. No new matter is presented and entry and reconsideration are respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION:

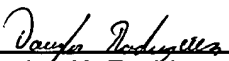
In accordance with the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all outstanding rejections have been overcome and/or rendered moot. And further, that all pending claims patentably distinguish over the prior art. There being no further outstanding rejections, the application is submitted as being in condition for allowance which action is earnestly solicited.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Preliminary Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 50-3333.

Respectfully submitted,

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